

SENATE BILL NO. 285

May 07, 2025, Introduced by Senator KLINEFELT and referred to Committee on Local Government.

A bill to amend 1846 RS 83, entitled
"Of marriage and the solemnization thereof,"
by amending section 7 (MCL 551.7), as amended by 2014 PA 278.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 7. (1) ~~Marriages~~ **A marriage** may be solemnized by any of
2 the following:

3 (a) A **district court** judge, ~~of the district court,~~ anywhere in
4 this state.

5 (b) A district court magistrate, anywhere in this state.

6 (c) A municipal judge, in the city in which the judge is

1 serving or in a township over which a municipal court has
 2 jurisdiction under section 9928 of the revised judicature act of
 3 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.9928.

4 (d) A **probate** judge, ~~of probate,~~ anywhere in this state.

5 (e) A judge of a federal court.

6 (f) A mayor of a city, anywhere in a county in which that city
 7 is located.

8 **(g) A supervisor of a township in the county in which that**
 9 **township is located.**

10 **(h)** ~~(g)~~ A county clerk in the county in which the clerk
 11 serves, or in another county with the written authorization of the
 12 clerk of the other county.

13 **(i)** ~~(h)~~ For a county ~~having~~ **with a population of** more than
 14 1,500,000, ~~inhabitants,~~ an employee of the county clerk's office
 15 designated by the county clerk, in the county in which the clerk
 16 serves.

17 **(j)** ~~(i)~~ A minister of the gospel or cleric or religious
 18 practitioner, anywhere in this state, if the minister or cleric or
 19 religious practitioner is ordained or authorized to solemnize
 20 marriages according to the usages of the denomination.

21 **(k)** ~~(j)~~ A minister of the gospel or cleric or religious
 22 practitioner, anywhere in this state, if the minister or cleric or
 23 religious practitioner is not a resident of this state but is
 24 authorized to solemnize marriages under the laws of the state in
 25 which the minister or cleric or religious practitioner resides.

26 **(l) A civil celebrant.**

27 **(m) A state legislator.**

28 (2) ~~A person~~ **An individual** authorized by this act to solemnize
 29 a marriage shall keep proper records and return licenses and

1 certificates as required by section 4 of 1887 PA 128, MCL 551.104.

2 (3) If a mayor of a city solemnizes a marriage, the mayor
3 shall charge and collect a fee to be determined by the council of
4 that city ~~, which shall~~ **that must** be paid to the city treasurer and
5 deposited in the general fund of the city at the end of the month.

6 (4) If the county clerk or, in a county ~~having with a~~
7 **population of** more than 1,500,000, ~~inhabitants,~~ an employee of the
8 **county** clerk's office designated by the county clerk solemnizes a
9 marriage, the county clerk shall charge and collect a fee to be
10 determined by the commissioners of the county in which the clerk
11 serves. The fee ~~shall~~ **must** be paid to the treasurer for the county
12 in which the clerk serves and deposited in the general fund of that
13 county at the end of the month.

14 (5) As used in this section, "civil celebrant" means an
15 individual to whom both of the following apply:

16 (a) The individual is at least 18 years of age.

17 (b) The individual works in accordance with the wishes of the
18 client couple.

19 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
20 unless Senate Bill No. 286 of the 103rd Legislature is enacted into
21 law.